

ST. NICHOLAS
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

Becoming a beloved community of God where all belong.

Christmas Eve December 24, 2024

Musical Prelude: Christmas Carols by the Congregation

Piano solo: *Wexford Carol* | Tune: WEXFORD CAROL, Traditional Irish Carol, arr. Stan Pethel

Anthem: *In the Bleak Mid-winter* | Words: Christina Rossetti | Music: Harold Darke |
Soloists: Mimi Yu and Helen Yu-Lefler

Piano solo: *Gesu Bambino* | Tune by Pietro A. Yon | Arr. Tracey Craig McKibben

Offertory Anthem: *Birthday Carol* | Words adapted from Luke 2 | Words and music by David Willcocks

Rejoice today with one accord, Alleluia, this is the birthday of our Lord. Alleluia.
REFRAIN: Gloria, Gloria in excelsis, Gloria, Gloria Deo., etc.

Shepherds abiding in the field, Alleluia, To them God's glory was reveal'd, Alleluia.
REFRAIN

And to the shepherds sore afraid, Alleluia, an angel said, 'Be not dismayed,' Alleluia.
REFRAIN

'Tidings of joy to you I bring,' Alleluia, 'Today is born a heav'nly King.' Alleluia.
REFRAIN

'And ye shall find in manger laid,' Alleluia, 'The Babe in swaddling clothes arrayed, Alleluia
REFRAIN

A host of angels fill'd the sky, Alleluia, thus singing praise to God on high: Alleluia.
REFRAIN

Now join we all the angel-throng, Alleluia, and let our voices swell the song: Alleluia.
REFRAIN

Communion Anthem: *A La Nanita Nana* | Traditional Spanish Carol, Arr. by Roger Folstrom
for the University of Maryland Chorale

REFRAIN: A la Nanita nana, nanita ea, nanita ea
My Jesus, He is sleeping, O come behold Him, O come behold Him. A la Nanita, etc.

Little brook ever flowing, rushing and ringing, nightingale in the forest sighing and singing,
Quiet while the cradle gently enfolds Him. Quiet, while, etc.

Postlude: *Bring a Torch, Jeannette, Isabella* | Tune: BRING A TORCH, Traditional French
Carol | Arr. Reed West

Come, Let Us Adore Him: Advent Candle Lighting Liturgy 2024

CHRISTMAS EVE, YEAR C - December 24, 2024

Reader One: Beloved, today we welcome the Christ Child, the fulfillment of our joy, as we proclaim with the prophet Isaiah, “For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace” (Isaiah 9:6).

Congregation: Christ our joy has come near. Emmanuel, God with us, has come to dwell with us as a tiny baby. “His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this” (Isaiah 9:7).

Reader Two: We light this candle as a sign of Christ coming to dwell with us, to live in the neighborhood of vulnerable humanity as a vulnerable child. May the light of Christ warm our hearts and light our way as we share the joy of God’s salvation wherever we go.

Light the first, second, third (pink/rose), fourth & center candle (Christ candle) of the Advent wreath.

